of CIRM) under RLC(C) Dhanbad and were more than three months old as on 31/3/98. Of these FOC reports, 187 have since been disposed off. These Industrial Disputes were raised by individuals and Unions functioning in the Coal, Railway and Banks Industries;

(b) As on 31.3.98, 16 Industrial Disputes were pending due to non-submission of FOC Reports within 3 months as the RLC(C) Dhanbad;

(c) 22 proposals for prosecution have been submitted by RLC(C) Dhanbad for approval to the Government as on 31.3.98;

(d) 24 prosecution cases are pending in the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Dhanbad for trial & disposal as on 31.3.98.

(e) and (f) Due to heavy intake of FOC reports, there has been some delay in the final disposal. Every possible effort is made to quicken the pace of disposal of FOC Reports and the delay has considerably been reduced during the recent past.

Backlog of unemployment in the country

2813. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of unemployment in the country by the end of Seventh Plan;

(b) the achievement made to generate jobs for the unemployed persons during Eighth Plan period and 1997-98; and

(c) whether a new strategy is proposed to be adopted to create additional employment in the Ninth Plan period particularly in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Unemployment in the country as per the Current Weekly Status, at the beginning of the Eighth Plan, was estimated to be 17.00 million. The 8th plan envisaged 8 to 9 million annual addition in employment opportunities during the period 1992—97. As per the latest survey of National Sample Survey Organisation, the addition to employment opportunities during 1987-88 to 1993-94 was 43.91 million on Usual Principal Status basis. This implies addition of 7.3 million employment opportunities per annum.

(c) The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

Abolition of Child Labour

2814. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government on the abolition of child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the achievement made in this regard;

(c) the State-wise position at present;

(d) the number of child labour detected from those States during last three years; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) According to the 1991 census, the number of working children below the age of 14 years is 11.28 million. Statewise distribution of working children is at statement (*See* below). Recently, in the first round of survey of working children conducted by the State Government on the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, 5,54,970 children were identified.

Government has taken a series of steps for the elimination of child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children is prohibited in 7 occupations and 8 processes contained in Parts (a) & (b) of the Schedule to the Act. There are also legal provisions and various other labour laws for safeguarding the interest of working children. Apart from legal measures, Government has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour in hazardous occupations through the National Child Labour Projects. A major activity undertaken in these projects is the establishment of special schools to provide nonformal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition, health check, stipend etc.

So far, 76 child labour projects have been sanctioned for rehabilitation of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of Working Children as per 1971, 1981 and 1991 Census

	State/Union Territories	1971	1981	1991		
		Workers	Workers	Main Workers	Marginal Workers	Total Workers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,627,492	1,951,312	1,537,293	124,647	1,661,940
2.	Assam	239,349*	**	259,953	67,645	327,598
3.	Bihar	1,059,359	1,101,764	795,444	146,801	942,245
4.	Gujrat	518,061	616,913	373,027	150,558	523,585
5.	Haryana	137,826	194,189	89,030	20,661	109,691
6.	Himachal Pradesh	71,384	99,624	30,771	25,667	56,438
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	70,489	258,437	**	**	**
8.	Karnataka	808,719	1,131,530	818,159	158,088	976,247
9.	Kerala	111,801	92,854	28,590	6,210	34,800
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1,112,319	1,698,597	997,940	354,623	1,352,563
11.	Maharashtra	988,357	1,557,756	805,847	262,571	1,068,418
12.	Manipur	16,380	20,217	13,478	3,015	16,483
13.	Meghalaya	30,440	44,916	30,730	3,903	34,633
14.	Nagaland	13,726	16,235	16,106	370	16,476
15.	Orissa	492,477	702,293	325,250	127,144	452,394
16.	Punjab	232,774	216,939	132,414	10,454	142,868
17.	Rajasthan	587,389	819,605	490,522	283,677	774,199
18.	Sikkim	15,661	8,561	5,254	344	5,598
19.	Tamilnadu	713,305	975,055	523,125	55,764	578,889
20.	Tripura	17,490	24,204	13,506	2,972	16,478
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,326,726	1,434,675	1,145,087	264,999	1,410,086
22.	West Bengal	511,443	605,263	593,387	118,304	711,691
23.	Andaman & Nikobar Island	572	1,309	758	507	1,265
24	Arunachal Pradesh	17,925	17,950	11,632	763	12,395
25	Chandigarh	1,086	1,986	1,839	31	1,870

	State/Union Territories	1971 Workers	1981 Workers	1991 Main Workers	1991 Marginal Workers	1991 Total Workers
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3,102	3,615	2,677	1,739	4,416
27	Delhi	17,120	25,717	26,670	681	27,351
28	Daman and Diu	7,391	9,378	741	200	941
29	Goa			3,938	718	4,656
30	Lakshadweep	97	56	17	17	34
31	Mizoram	***	6,314	6,391	10,020	16,411
32	Pondicherry	3,725	3,606	2,565	115	2,680
	Total	10,753,985	13,640,870	9,082,141	2,203,208	11,285,349

* Includes figures of Mizo district also which then formed part of Assam.
** Census could not be conducted.
*** Census figures of 1971 in respect of Mizoram included under Assam.
NB: Figures for 1991 relates to workers of age group 5-14 years.

Exploitation of house hold workers

2815. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the exploitation of part time or full time workers, mainly house-maids, young children, working in private house holds; and

(b) whether Government propose to launch any scheme to ameliorate the suffering of these maids and children?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the plight of domestic servants including house-maids and young children. In all such cases reports have been obtained from the State Governments who have stated that such workers are not attached to any specific households but work on payment basis in a number of house-holds. These workers have irregular timings and unspecified terms relating to leave. Apart from wages they are getting other benefits like clothes, meals, accommodation etc.

(b) At present there is no proposal to launch any welfare scheme for these workers.

Registration of Unemployed Persons

2816. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that registration of unemployed persons has increased over the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of job seekers, all of whom need not necessarily be unemployed, who registered themselves in the Employment Exchanges during the year 1995, 1996 and 1997 were of the order of 58.6, 58.7 and 63.2 lakh respectively.

श्रम न्यायालयों में विवादों का निपटान

2817. श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:
श्री सूर्यभान पाटील वहाडणे:

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली के श्रम न्यायालयों में कर्मचारियों के विवादों का शीघ्र निपटान करने के